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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Front Line: International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (Special; 2004)

PART I - Introduction

Front Line was founded in Dublin, Ireland in 2001 with the specific aim of protecting Human Rights Defenders (HRD) at risk, people who work non-violently for any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Front Line seeks to provide rapid and practical support to at-risk HRD—including through a 24 hour emergency response phone line—and to promote the visibility and recognition of HRD as a vulnerable group. Front Line also promotes awareness of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and is working to ensure that the principles and standards set out in the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups, and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (known as the Declaration on HRD) are known, respected and adhered to worldwide. In order to achieve these aims, Front Line carries out many activities. It runs a small grants program to provide for the security needs of defenders. Grants are given for the specific purpose of strengthening the protection of HRD at risk. Emergency grants are given for temporary relocation and/or basic support when the life of a human rights defender is at immediate risk. Front Line also lobbies regional representatives for HRD as well as national governments to take more action on behalf of HRD. Front Line conducts research and publishes reports on the situation of HRD in specific countries. The organization also develops resource materials and training packages on behalf of HRD as well as facilitating networking and exchange between defenders in different parts of the world.

Expanded Areas of Activities:

Since 2004 the number of defenders Front Line works with has increased by 50% to 1,400 HRD. Grant allocations for the protection of HRD have also increased to €270,000 in 2007, as well as the number of research missions carried out by Front Line. In the past three years Front Line has sent missions to Afghanistan (twice), Uganda (twice), Tunisia, Rwanda, Burundi, the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya, Philippines, Colombia, Morocco and Western Sahara, Nepal (in 2006 during the emergency), Bahrain, China, India, Guatemala. In 2007, Front Line, in accordance with its stated commitment in 2003, prioritized the development of a systematic training programme for HRD on Security and Protection and has continue it's work in the area of digital security.

Front Line continues to provide a rolling internship in the Office of the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders at the office of High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. We also disseminate and look for implementation of the UN Declaration on HRDs in all our activities.

Front Line's advocacy role has been strengthened with the opening of a Front Line office in Brussels. Front Line has created an internship to assist the Special Rapporteur on HRDS at the African Commission on Human and People's Rights in Banjul, the Gambia.

PART II: Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Front Line has attended the United Nations Commission for Human Rights and the new Human Rights Council since 2004, contributing information on the situation of HRD around the world and lobbying for strengthened protection measures. Generally Front Line attended for the presentation of the report of the Special Rapporteur and previous Special Representative on HRDS to the Council: (i) 4th session of the Human Rights Council: Geneva, Switzerland (12-30 March 2007) Front Line issued an written statement 'Iran and Uzbekistan HRD - Too Dangerous For Human Rights'; (ii) 1st session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland (19-30 June 2006). Attended as an observer to learn more about how the new Human Rights Council would operate practically and attended Special Representatives report; (iii) 61st session of the Commission on Human Rights Geneva, Switzerland (14 March-22 April 2005) Attended as an observer and lobbied different governments e.g. the Sudan, Norway for the protection of HRD. Attended the Special Representative's report to the Commission; (iv) 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights Geneva, Switzerland (15 March - 23 April 2004) Attended as an observer and lobbied different governments for the protection of HRD e.g. European delegates and delegates of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Attended the Special Representative's report to the Commission.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Front Line has had ongoing contact with the office of the United Nations Special Representative on HRD and has sought both to contribute information as well as to support opportunities for the Special Rapporteur to meet and exchange with HRD from different regions of the world. Louise Arbour, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, delivered speeches at the last Dublin Platform in 2007. Front Line was very active in lobbying for the renewal and improvement of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on HRD at every session attended at the Human Rights Council and Commission on Human Rights. Front Line provides practical support to the work of the Office of the Special Representative through the funding of an internship program in Geneva, Switzerland. Front Line regularly liaised with this Office and submits urgent appeals on behalf of HRD. Front Line disseminated information about the United Nations on the Front Line website and contributed its expertise to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The following is an example of papers submitted: (i) Front Line submission to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Universal Periodic Review Mechanism ' HRD at Risk in Bahrain' 31 October 2007; (ii) Front Line submission to the OHCHR Universal Periodic Review Mechanism on Brazil; India; Morocco; Philippines 1st session April 2008; Submitted on 19 November 2007.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals

a) Millennium Development Goals

Front Line's activities to support all HRD directly help to implement the Millennium Development Goals. These activities have been outlined above.

With reference to **Goal 3**: The Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, Front Line worked as part of the International Coordination Committee for the Campaign For Women HRDs, and secondly collated reports on women HRDs and attempted to highlight the conditions of women HRDs in particular at various fora. For example, Front Line highlighted the issue at the 3rd Dublin Platform in 2005 and published reports include 'Being Women HRD: Security Matters in Activism (2007)'. In addition, Front Line expanded its small grants program to include financial support specifically earmarked to HRD associated with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex-related causes.

With reference to **Goal 7**: Ensure Environmental Sustainability, Front Line cooperated with many HRDs that are involved in campaigns to reduce the effects of environmental degradation. For instance, two of the nominees for the Front Line Defender of the Year Award were involved in such work.

b) Global Principles (i) Front Line marked the 8th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on HRD on 9 December 2007 by hosting a public talk at Trinity College, Dublin with three leading HRD from Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan and Guatemala; (ii) Front Line launched a public awareness campaign with The Body Shop Ireland in 2007. This saw the launch of Front Line's action campaign "Protect one, empower a thousand" to end the harassment of human rights defenders. This allows and encourages the public to become active in efforts to protect human rights defenders by taking direct action to support defenders who are being harassed, detained or threatened as a result of their peaceful activities in defense of human rights; (iii) Front Line holds an annual Front Line Award which honors a Human Rights Defender, who has displayed exceptional courage in working non-violently for the rights of others; (iv) Front Line hosted a conference entitled: 'Human Rights Defenders and Development Agencies: How to build stronger synergies?' Brussels, Belgium, 15-16 October 2007 (Organized with the support of the European Commission, King Baudouin Foundation, and the European Centre for Development Policy Management ECDPM); (v) Front Line was awarded the 2007 King Baudouin International Development Prize.

2. Kindernothilfe
(Special; 2004)

PART I - Introduction

i. Aims and Purposes

The aim of Kindernothilfe's (KNH) (Help for Children in Need) work is to achieve a world in which children and young people can live a life of human dignity, develop their talents and together with their families and community take their development into their own hands. The principles of participation and helping people to help themselves as well as commitment to the rights of the child are the main factors on which KNH bases its help. Its scope of project-support ranges from day care centres to shelters for street children and includes community based projects and self-help groups; aiming always to achieve widespread impact. Main focus points are: basic education and vocational training, HIV/AIDS, support for girls and women, children at risk, community development. Nowadays KNH works in 28 countries supporting about 567,000 boys and girls. Public awareness work and advocacy are also important elements of KNH's work as well as disaster relief. In 2006, KNH started mainstreaming children's rights and implementing a child rights approach.

ii. New organisational affiliations

In 2004 a KNH Foundation was established in Switzerland. It follows the same aims and purposes as KNH Germany.

iii. Changes in the amount of funding

2005 stands out as an extraordinary year. The tsunami-disaster at the end of 2004 triggered off in Germany and elsewhere an overwhelming willingness to help. This led to unexpectedly high donations to KNH which made an impact on the financial statement of 2004 but even more on the results for 2005. In 2005, it stood at 19.2 million Euros i.e. 38.3 percent higher than 2004. The normal programme of long-term support was not negatively affected by this. Quite the reverse, in fact the number of children and young people supported by KNH, around the world increased by almost 50,000.

PART II - Contribution of the organisation to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

KNH Advocacy Officer attended the following meetings, sessions etc: (i) **2004**: 16 January 2004, Geneva, Switzerland, session of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child when Germany represented its second periodic report in accordance with article 44 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; (ii) **2005:** 22–23 February, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund)

Consultation "Children and AIDS Summit 2006, HIV/AIDS-Consultation on Orphans and Vulnerable Children"; 6–8 April, Geneva, Switzerland, 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, especially lobbying on the topic of individual complaints procedure to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (see written statement submitted by KNH E/CN.4/2005/NGO/337, 24 March 2005) and attended the Child Rights Caucus; (iii) **2007**: 2 March, Brussels, Belgium: Meeting of European Network on Debt and Development with all European Executive Directors of the World Bank on the topic of debt cancellation and development; 19-20 June, Florence, Italy, International Expert Roundtable Meeting to support the elaboration of European Union Guidelines on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child hosted by UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre; 9 October, Geneva, Switzerland, Pre-sessional Working Group of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and represented the shadow report on Germany's Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children and Armed Conflict.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2004: Project of our partner Undugu Society Nairobi/Kenya: two year special programme – Informal Skills Training Programme (300 participants) supported by International Labour Organization (ILO).

2006 - ongoing: Project in collaboration with UNICEF to enhance the community response to the increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children and the weakened traditional safety net at community level due to HIV/AIDS and other reasons through a community based orphan support system that builds on and utilizes available community resources in Zambia.

2004 – Partly ongoing: Cooperation of our partner African Cooperative Action Trust Swaziland with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to assist drought stricken farmers with seeds and farm tools. They also cooperated with FAO in a project where they assisted vulnerable households construct water jars for rainwater harvesting. The same partner worked together with UNICEF in the development and establishment of Neighbourhood Care Points (NCP) aimed at helping orphaned and vulnerable children to have access to feeding. They cooperated with UNICEF in the capacity building of NCP caregivers in order to equip them with skills they needed to provide social support to children coming to the NCP. Further cooperation in the implementation of a Water and Sanitation Hygiene project, where they assisted in the establishment of improved pit latrines in 105 NCP. The same partner is still cooperating with World Food Programme (WFP) in the distribution of targeted food to needy households in different parts of the country. They have also cooperated with WFP in NCP and school feeding programmes in drought stricken areas.

2007: Our partner Movimondo in Honduras cooperated with ILO/International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour supporting model schools for working children. Movimondo is carrying on this project.

iv. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed Development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

i) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

KNH has contributed to the MDGs in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. Major actions undertaken were the following:

Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education = 16,793,687.96 EUR; Basic education = 34,921,680.24 EUR. **Actions**: primary schools, scholarship programmes, vocational training etc.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women = 6,896,925.69 EUR.

Actions: projects with under-age mothers, self help groups, micro-loans programmes etc.

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality/children at risk = 15,988,940.98 EUR

Actions: combating child labour and child marriages, projects with street children, care and rehabilitation programmes for differently able children, combating exploitation and health risks for children in mines, child soldier's projects and help for traumatized children etc.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS = 4,273,810.11 EUR

Actions: HIV/AIDS prevention education and programmes, help and hospice for AIDS orphans, self-help groups etc.

ii) Activities in Support of Global Principles

2004: March 2004: A study compiled on behalf of KNH was published: Klaus Heidel: "Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers – blind to the rights of the (working) child? (It has been taken into consideration by the ILO – Report on Child Labour 2006 and World Bank) Overall relevance: Contribution to the discussion about the effectiveness of Poverty Reduction Strategies considering the best interests of the child.

2005: April 2005: Focussing on its main theme of the year 2005: "Combating poverty. Girls can count on us", KNH participated in the millennium campaign to halve poverty by 2015.
Overall relevance: Raising awareness of MDGs in general and especially on the **Goal 3** on Gender Equality.

2007: September 2007: KNH published a case study from Uganda: "On our way. How communities can work for children affected by HIV/AIDS" Overall relevance: Contribution to the discussion about community based work and HIV/AIDS as well as to the question of eradicating poverty.

3. Soroptimist International
(General; 1984)

PART I. Introduction

Soroptimist International (SI) is an association of four Soroptimist Federations representing around 90,000 members in 124 countries and territories. As a worldwide organisation for women in management and the professions, and through international partnerships and a global network of members, Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls by: advocating for equity and equality; creating safe and healthy environments; increasing access to education; developing leadership and practical skills for a sustainable future. The Policy of SI is to be concerned with international and national issues that relate to its objects and programmes. On matters of political controversy between nations, of party politics and of sectarian religion, SI maintains a position of strict neutrality.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

SI supports all eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals. SI United Nations Representatives have participated in numerous United Nations and subsidiary bodies' meetings during the reporting period 2004 – 2007:

2004: 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW),1-12 March, United Nations Headquaters, New York, SI participated in Project FIVE-O workshop, 1 March, held Parallel Event with Rotary International and Zonta International, 3 March, sponsored a young women participant and participated in The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) Panel, 5 March, 'Women Confronting Conflict' SI booklet distributed; 12th Session CSD, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 14-30 April; NGO on Special List Briefing; 92nd Session of Annual International Conference, International Labour Organisation (ILO), 1-17 June, Geneva, Switzerland; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Programme Coordinating Board, 23-24 June, Geneva, Switzerland; Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) High-Level Segment, 28-30 June, United Nations Headquarters, New York; Conference of the Parties to the United Nations – Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, 28 June-9 July, Vienna, Austria; 57th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI)/ NGO Conference, 8-10 September, United Nations headquarters, New York, 'Women: Working to Implement the Millennium Development Goals' booklet distributed; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Science & Ethics Joint Programme Commission, 28 September, 16 November, 14 December Paris, France; UNESCO/NGO Reflection Group on Education for All (EFA), 21 September, 18 October, 15 November, 13 December , Paris; UNESCO Joint Programme Commission "Communications and New Technologies", 8 November, Paris; World Health Organisation (WHO) NGO meeting, 13 October, Geneva, Switzerland.

2005: 43rd Session Commission for Social Development, 9-18 February, Vienna, co-signed Joint International Non-Governmental Organisations in Consultative Status with the United Nations (INGO) Statement; The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Board First Session 2005, 17 January, Paris, co-signed Joint Statement; Beijing+10 Conference: 49th CSW, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 28 February-11 March, SI sponsored and participated in Parallel Event with The ***World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts*** (WAGGGS), 'Empowering Women', 4 March, 'Soroptimists Working for Women and Girls' booklet distributed; United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 23rd Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum, 21-25 February, Nairobi; 61st Session of the Commission on Human Rights, 14 March -22 April, Geneva, Switzerland, signed Joint Statements ITEM 10 - Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and ITEM 12 – Violence Against Women; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Panel discussion on Counter Terrorism, 18 March, Vienna; 11th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 18-25 April, Bangkok, Thailand, held Ancillary Meeting in cooperation with the American Society of Criminology on 'Trafficking in children', 'Soroptimists Uniting to Combat Trafficking of Women and Girls' booklet distributed; UNESCO 7th Session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC), 25-27 July, Paris; 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, 7-9 September, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 'Women Striving to Achieve the MDGs' booklet distributed; UNESCO, General Conference, 20 October, Paris; The World Summit on the Information Society, 16-18 November, Tunis, 'Women and the Information Society - Striving to Achieve the MDGs' booklet distributed; International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC) International Conference on Measuring Human Trafficking: Complexities and Pitfalls, 2-4 December, Courmayeur, Italy; NGO Forum Review Beijing+10, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) , 12-13 December, United Nations Headquarters, Geneva; UNESCO, International Conference of NGOs, 14-16 December, Paris.

2006: 34th Session Committee for the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 16 January– 3 February, New York; 44th Session Commission for Social Development, 8-17 February, United Nations Headquaters, New York, signed Joint Statement; 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 27 February-11 March, United Nations Headquarters, New York, held two Parallel Events: 'The Story of Two Communities', 27 February and 'Empowering Women Worldwide' (Project FIVE-O), 2 March, written Statements accepted, 'SI Broadening Women's and Girls' Horizons in Health Education and Employment' booklet distributed; 49th Session Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 13-17 March, United Nations Headquarters, Vienna, Austria; 62nd Session Commission on Human Rights, 13-17 March, Geneva, Switzerland, co-signed Joint Statement at Final Session; United Nations General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, Uniting the world against AIDS, United Nations Headquarters New York, 31 May-2 June, 'Protecting Women and Children from the Devastating Impact of HIV/AIDS' booklet distributed; Substantive Session of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), 3-28 July; Annual Department of Public Information NGO Conference, United Nations Headquarters New York, 6-8 September, 'Partnerships in Health - Soroptimists Working to Improve the Lives of Women and Girls' booklet distributed; 2nd Session Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland 18 September-6 October, signed Joint Statement (2 October 2006); UNODC (United Nations Office on drugs and crime), Conference of the Parties, 9-18 October, Vienna, Austria; 61st Session General Assembly,

Third Committee, 9-10 October, United Nations Headquarters, New York ; UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) NGO Day, 8 December, Paris, France, 'Dignity - Respect, Honour, Value' - booklet distributed; 4th Special Session, Human Rights Council, 12 December, Geneva, Switzerland, co-signed Joint NGO Statement for 12/12 Special on Darfur.

2007: 51st Session of the CSW, 26 February-9 March, United Nations Headquarters, New York, Parallel Event – 'Society Working Together: Ending Violence against the Girl Child', Soroptimist International 'Giving Girls a Chance' booklet distributed; 50th Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 13-20 March, Vienna; 16th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 23-27 April, United Nations Headquarters, Vienna; Committee on the Status of Women, 60th Anniversary Economic Commission for Europe, 27 April, Geneva, Switzerland, co-signed Joint Statement.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

In 2005 SI started funding a project in collaboration with the World Health Organisation. SI provided 30,000 Malaria nets to the pregnant women and young children in Zé, Benin, Africa. Soroptimists also worked with local health cadres to provide education on the prevention and treatment of malaria.

iii) Other Conferences, Meetings and Events

SI United Nations Representatives have been and are actively participating in committee work, holding posts on the NGO CSW and DPI Committees, Treasurer for the NGO Committee on United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Treasurer for UNIFEM/Metro board, NGO Health Executive Committee, UNICEF Working Group on Girls at United Nations Headquarters, New York; The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) Board Member 2003 – 2006, Treasurer for CONGO in Vienna, Austria, 2005-2007 and on the NGO/UNESCO Liaison Committee at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris during the period of this quadrennial report 2004 - 2007. Reports provided by SI United Nations Representatives on important issues to be addressed are cascaded to our membership worldwide.

iv) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

Soroptimist clubs in 124 countries actively participated in working towards achieving the MDG through awareness raising, advocacy and action such as: **Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education:** Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling. Actions: (i) Pupils into school = 3,460; (ii) Teachers trained = 102; (iii) Classrooms built or renovated - Number of projects = 41; (iv) Primary School materials delivered - Number of projects = 45. **Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women:** Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education. Actions: (i) Vocational training programmes = 177; (ii) School mentoring programmes = 68; (iii) Teachers trained = 125; (iv) Classrooms built or renovated = 46; (v) Scholarships = 115; (vi) Secondary School materials delivered - Number of projects = 1475;

(vii) Violence against Women - Awareness raising projects = 107. **Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases:** Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases. Actions: (i) HIV/AIDS related projects = 147; (ii) Provided Malaria nets, Zé, Benin = 30,000; (iii) Water Aid related projects = 40.

4. World Veterans Federation
(General; 1952)

I. INTRODUCTION

The World Veterans Federation (WVF) is an organization of national associations of war veterans and war victims, and persons who have served in United Nations peacekeeping operations. It is the only international organization representing 168 associations of veterans, blue berets and victims of war in 88 countries (approximately 27 million individuals). The aims of WVF are: to promote international peace and security by the application of the Charter of the United Nations and the International Bill of Human Rights; defend the spiritual and material interests of veterans and victims of war; establish working relations between associations and encourage international cooperation and understanding.

A revised Constitution was adopted at the WVF General Assembly (2-7 December 2006, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) which made some administrative changes in governance, but did not impact on the aims of the organization. A new category of membership was added which allows legally instituted bodies which support the aims and objectives of the WVF to be invited to join as 'affiliate members'; they would have no voting rights.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The WVF's representatives to the United Nations attended meetings in New York and Geneva and were active members of civil society entities, including the Non Governmental Organization (NGO) Committee on Disarmament; the NGO Committee on the Status of Women; NGO Committee on Girls; NGO Committee on Mental Health; NGO Committee on Older Persons; Committees on the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

WVF Participated in following events at the United Nations headquarters, New York:

2004 – 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1-12 March 2004. Statement published as E/CN.6/2004/NGO/15 addressing the thematic issue - "women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace building".

2004 – Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 30th Session, 12-30 January; 31st Session CEDAW, 6-23 July.

2005 – 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 26 February – 11 March 2004. Statement published as E/CN.6/2005/NGO/11 on the implementation of the Platform for Action,

adopted by Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, 1995, and the outcome documents from the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly.

2005 – Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 32nd Session, 10-28 January; 27 June – 1 July, (Working Group on Communications, Optional Protocol to Convention).

2005 – 58th United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI NGO) Conference on 7-9 September, "Our Challenges: Voices for Peace, Partnership and Renewal".

2006 – 50th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 27 February – 10 March 2006. Statement published as E/CN.6/2006/NGO/21, commenting on theme 'equal participation of women and men in decision making processes at all levels".

2007– 37th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and 25th anniversary, 14 January - 1 February 2007.

2007 – United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI NGO) Conference, 5-7 September, "Climate Change: How it Impacts Us All".

Special Project: The WVF launched a major project to commemorate the United Nations International Day of Peace on 21 September 2008, calling upon its member associations around the world to organize a local 'walk for peace' in support of the United Nations historic effort to mobilize public opinion to reject war and violence. Around ninety associations from different continents have responded positively and enthusiastically to the WVF Project and are now organizing events to mark the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2008. The goal is for the WVF to organize a global movement, bringing in other sectors of civil society, to promote the universal desire for peace around this United Nations event. Seeking to enter into partnership with the United Nations, the WVF President has met several times with United Nations officials to discuss ways of achieving maximum credibility for such a multifaceted endeavour. Each WVF association will develop its own initiative within its country for the 'Walk for Peace'. They are urged to make contact with the United Nations Information Centres (UNICS) within their countries, which will cooperate with them in their focused activities around the International Day of Peace, 21 September, 2008.

WVF Member associations interacted with regional entities affiliated with the United Nations set up programs that contribute to meeting the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. Examples: the Indonesia Veterans' Wife Association (PIVERI) contributed in different ways to all the goals from a women's perspective; the Pakistan Armed Service Board set up a micro credit program to combat poverty of ex-servicemen and a program to combat illiteracy. Other WVF associations cooperated with other organizations to alleviate the economic and health problems of former combatants and civilian victims of war in their countries.

The Standing Committee on Women paid special attention to the situation of women and children caught in conflict situations and in post-conflict restructuring societies, sharing information on United

Nations Special Rapporteurs' reports within the WVF as well as other NGOs. WVF is a member of the Coalition on Child Soldiers and has worked within international and national coalitions seeking redress for the Comfort Women of World War II. In 2005, the Chair of the Committee met with members of the Danish Women's Council and the Federation of Women Veterans of Finland to promote cooperation within the WVF and with other NGOs at the United Nations.

Regional organizations also took actions: At the 12th Standing Committee on African Affairs, 20-22 May 2004, Rabat (Morocco) the WVF African Development Fund (TANTOR) was set up. The Standing Committee on European Affairs 19-24 October 2004, Zagreb (Croatia) created a Steering Committee "to exchange information and research programmes involving the health and welfare of veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), family situations and on the consequences of wars." At this meeting, a Special Session was held on the 'Croatian perspective on European integration". In 2005, WVF member organizations from Morocco and France signed a 'convention of Cooperation and Friendship. During this period, a newly formed Working Group on Eastern Europe has undertaken a project to reconcile veterans who had fought on different sides during World War II, and in subsequent regional conflicts.

On an international level, consistent with its dedication to the principles and aims of the United Nations to bring about a more peaceful world, the WVF issued communiqués on significant occasions, i.e. in September 2005 "reaffirm(ing) its commitment to reject war as a means of settling differences". WVF assisted in the organization of an International Conference of Veterans and Civilian Victims to promote reconciliation and peaceful development among former adversaries, which was held in Budapest on 3-5 April on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. In February 2005, the WVF congratulated the leaders of Israel and Fatah at the Sharm El-Sheikh Summit saying "the path towards peace is one of dialogue and understanding between people and nations."

The WVF awards a Rehabilitation Prize during its General Assembly (every 3 years), which recognizes the unique contributions individuals or organizations make to the field of rehabilitation, especially relevant for veterans and victims of armed conflicts. Such contributions can be for research, advances in public policy, communications or technology that enhance the quality of life of persons with disabilities. At the 25th General Assembly, 2-7 December 2006, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), individuals from Taiwan Province of China, Russian Federation, Thailand, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were honoured.

Also at its 25th General Assembly in 2006 (2-7 December, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), the WVF delegates passed a number of Resolutions of direct or indirect interest to the United Nations. These resolutions are intended to stimulate the member associations to take actions within their own organizations and communities. Examples of the Resolutions: Child Soldiers, Working for Peace, Peace, Security and Cooperation, Respect for Human Dignity, Peace & International Security, Combat the Illegal Traffic of Light and Small Caliber Arms, Antipersonnel Landmines, Nuclear Disarmament, and For a Peaceful Political Solution Through dialogue to the Situation in the Middle East.

5. World Wide Fund for Nature
(General; 1996)

Part I. Introduction

i. Aims and Purposes of the organization and main course of action:

World Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF) Mission Statement: To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by: (i) conserving the world's biological diversity; (ii) ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; (iii) promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

WWF's reports show that we use twenty-five percent more natural resources than the planet can sustain and as a result species, habitats and local communities are under threat. WWF works with its partner's world wide to develop and implement lasting solutions to the environmental challenges we face. WWF has set out to conserve a representative sample of some of the world's most outstanding natural places, to ensure that populations of the most ecologically, economically and culturally important species are restored and thriving in the wild and that humanity's global footprint falls below its 2000 level and continues its downward trend specially in the areas of: Energy/carbon footprint; Commodities (crops, meat, fish and wood) footprints; Water footprint. WWF will also address some of the drivers of threats to biodiversity and that contribute to the damage created by the ecological footprint.

WWF is one of the largest and most experienced independent conservation organizations, with almost five million supporters and a global network active in more than 100 countries.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

World Wide Fund for Nature International contributed information, policy positions, suggestions, case studies and verbal advice and written form to participants of: (i) Conference of the parties (COP) 7 Convention on Biological Diversity, 9-20 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; (ii) Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), 16-30 April 2004, United Nations headquarters, New York; (iii) International Whaling Commission (IWC), 19-22 July 2004, Sorrento, Italy; (iv) United Nations Environmental Project (UNEP) Governing Council, 2-4 September 2004, Nairobi, Kenya; (v) CITES Conference of the Parties, 2-14 October 2004, Bangkok, Thailand; (vi) United Nations Framework convention on climate Change (UNFCCC) COP10, 6-17 December 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina; (vii) IWC 57th annual meeting, 20-24 June 2005, Ulsan, Republic of Korea; (viii) United Nations General Assembly, informal sessions on WSS 169 Environmental Governance, September-December 2005, United Nations headquarters, New York; (ix) Meeting on the 4th Replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, 5-7 October 2005, Rome, Italy; (x) Regular Meeting of the Council of the Global Environment Facility, 7-11 November 2005, Washington D.C., United States of America; (xi) Conference on Migratory Species (CMS) COP8, 20-25 November 2005, Nairobi, Kenya; (xii) UNFCCC, 28 November-9 December 2005, Montreal, Canada; (xiii) United Nations General Assembly Oceans Debate, 28 November 2005, New York, United States of America; (xiv) Convention

on Biological Diversity (CBD) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical on Technological Advise (SBSTTA), 5-9 December 2005, Montreal, Canada; (xv) Second meeting of the ad hoc open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, 5-9 December 2005, Montreal, Canada; (xvi) 4th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Article 8(j), 23-27 January 2006, Granada, Spain; (xvii) 4th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing, 30 January-3 February 2006, Granada, Spain; (xviii) Civil Society Forum and UNEP Governing Council Special Session, 6-8 February 2006, Dubai; (xix) Meeting of the Parties (MOP) 3 Bio-safety Protocol, 13-17 March 2006, Curitiba, Brazil; (xx) CBD COP9, 20-31 March 2006, Curitiba, Brazil; (xxi) CSD 14, 1-12 May 2006, New York, USA; (xxii) Intergovernmental Panel on climate Change (IPCC) 10th session Working Group, 29 January-1 February; (xxiii) UN Environment Organization Pioneer Group proposal, 2-3 February 2007, Paris, France; (xxiv) UNEP Civil Society NGOS segment and Governing Council, 3-9 February 2007, Paris, France; (xxv) CSD15 Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, 26 Feb-2 March 2007, New York, United States of America; (xxvi) IPCC WGII, 2-5 April 2007, Brussels, Belgium UN/ECOSOC/World Bank/Monterrey Financing for Development Special high-level meeting, 16 April 2007, New York; (xxvii) Informal Consultations of States Parties to United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, 23-27 April 2007, New York, United States of America; (xxviii) IPCC 26th Session, 4 May 2007, Bangkok, Thailand; (xxix) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council, 4-8 June 2007, Washington DC, USA; (xxx) 8th Meeting of the United Nations Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, 26-29 September 2007, Stockholm, Sweden; (xxxi) ECOSOC High level and substantive meeting, 2-27 July 2007, Geneva, Switzerland; (xxxii) CBD SBSTTA 12, 2-6 July 2007, Paris, France; (xxxiii) Open-ended informal consultative process on Oceans Affairs and Law of the Sea, 2-6 July, Cape Town, South Africa; (xxxiv) 2nd meeting of Open-ended Wording Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-2), 9-13 July 2007, Paris France; (xxxv) Heads of States Meeting on Climate, 24 September 2007, New York, USA; (xxxvi) 5th meeting Ad-hoc open-ended WG on ABS, 8-12 October 2007, Montreal, Canada; (xxxvii) IPCC-27 Plenary session – final summary, 12-16 November 2007, Valencia, Spain; (xxxviii) UNFCCC COP13/MOP3, 3-14 December 2007, Bali, Indonesia.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the MDGs

Goal 1 Poverty, Goal 7 Sustainable development

WWF has more than 2,000 projects world wide most of which focus on conservation and equity. Below are several examples where we work to link protected area networks to development.

Community participation in protected areas and devolving benefits from protected areas e.g. microfinancing in West African Marine Eco-region; Developing models of community participation in protected area management and deriving benefits in Altai-Sayan; Participation and benefit sharing in the Carpathian eco-region; Poverty Reduction through natural resource management – projects in Mekong, Lao People's Democratic Republic; Kafue Flats, Zambia; Pastaza Region, Peru and Ecuador; Campo Ma'an, Cameroon; Lake Naivasha, Kenya.

We also work on sustainable livelihoods to link economic growth with sustainable natural resource use: (i) Community conserved areas in semi arid regions e.g. Namibia; (ii) Sustainable

livelihoods work ranging from fisheries and forests to crops such as palm oil, soy, in the Congo, United Republic of Tanzania, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Fiji, Amazon; (iii) WWF International published a series of information books during this period highlighting links between poverty and sustainable development. Examples include: (a) Species and People: Linked Futures – a report with case studies on the contribution of wildlife conservation to rural livelihoods and the MDGs; (b) Sustaining the environment, sustaining people – Case studies on Reducing Poverty through conservation; (iv) Arguments for Protection Series: Running Pure The importance of Forest Protected Areas to Drinking water; Beyond Belief Linking Faith and Protected areas to support Biodiversity Conservation; Food Stores – Using Protected areas to secure genetic crop diversity.

Safety Net – Protected areas and poverty reduction; Natural Security – Protected areas and hazard mitigation.